19

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department (Agriculture),—Circular No. $\frac{129\text{ A}}{7-197}$ *under date Simla, the 6th November* 1885.

READ—

Government of India Circular No. 89A., dated 25th July 1884.

Government of India Circular No. $\frac{28}{6-76}$ A, dated 21st March 1885.

Read also—

Letter from the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 2768., dated 18th April 1885.
Letter from the Chief Commissioner, British Burma, No. 625-6A., dated 20th April 1885.
Letter from the Secretary for Berar to the Resident, Hyderabad, No. 753G., dated the 30th April 1885.
Endorsement from the Foreign Department, No. 1428I., dated 9th May 1885.
Letter from the Government of the Punjab, No. 150, dated 12th May 1885.
Letter from the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara, No. 190, dated 14th May 1885.
Letter from the Chief Commissioner, Coorg, No. $\frac{208}{31}$I., dated 11th May 1885.
Letter from the Chief Commissioner, Assam, No. 1673, dated 6th July 1885.
Endorsement from the Foreign Department, No. 2295I., dated 13th July 1885.
Letter to the Government of the Punjab, No. 6114, dated 27th July 1885.
Letter from the Chief Commissioner, British Burma, No. 1392-6A., dated 31st July 1885.
Letter from the Government of Bombay, No. 6713, dated 18th August 1885.
Endorsement from the Foreign Department, No. 2684I., dated 13th August 1885.
Telegram to the Government of Bengal, No. 738, dated 7th September 1885.
Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 1544T. R., dated 15th September 1885.

RESOLUTION.

In the circular letter No. 89A., dated the 25th July 1884, it was requested that all future estimates of the probable or actual outturn of crops should be prepared in an uniform manner, and Local Governments and Administrations were asked with this object to use either the American or the Indian system. It was added that in the event of the Indian system being preferred, 12 annas should be employed to denote an average crop and one rupee to denote a bumper crop. The object which the Government of India had in view was merely to secure uniformity in the preparation of these estimates. Subsequently the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh represented that the system ordinarily used in those Provinces is that under which an average crop is denoted by one rupee, a bumper crop being described as one and one quarter or 20 annas crop. A doubt having thus been thrown on the general applicability of the orders of the Government of India, a further reference on the subject was made to Local Governments and Administrations. From the replies received, it now appears that the system under which one rupee is used to denote only an average crop is in use in the whole or part of most Provinces, and all Local Governments and Administrations except the Governments of Bombay and Bengal have expressed their willingness to adopt it in their estimates. In the Bombay Presidency and in the Lower Provinces one rupee is generally used to denote a bumper crop, and the Governments concerned are therefore desirous of retaining the standard commonly in use.

2. The Governor-General in Council would be glad to leave the decision of the question to Local Governments if it were not for the uncertainty and inconvenience which must result from the preparation of returns by different standards. It is hoped that the returns will eventually be of considerable value to the mercantile public; but this can only be the case if an uniform method is followed in their preparation. Looking to the general tenour of the opinions expressed, it appears that less inconvenience will result from the adoption in Bombay and Bengal of the system under which an average crop is denoted by one rupee than from the introduction into other parts of India of the system under which one rupee denotes a bumper crop. His Excellency in Council trusts therefore that with the permission of Local Governments and Administrations crop forecasts may in future be prepared in all Provinces on the former system.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin.

Madras.	Central Provinces.
Bombay.	British Burma.
Bengal.	Assam.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Coorg
Punjab.	Ajmere-Merwara.

Secretary for Berar to the Resident, Hyderabad.

Ordered, also that a copy be forwarded to the F Department for communication to Political Officers c States.

[True extract
C. S. BAYI
Under-Secy. to the Govt.